

and drunk driving, as well as survivors of homicide victims. Our VOCA-funded compensation programs have helped hundreds of thousands of victims of violent crime.

The Crime Victims Fund is the Nation's premier vehicle for supporting victims' services. It is important to understand that the Crime Victims Fund does not receive a dime from tax revenue or appropriated funding. Instead, it is made up of criminal fines, forfeited bail bonds, penalties, and special assessments.

In 1995, after the Oklahoma City bombing, I proposed and Congress passed the Victims of Terrorism Act of 1995. Among other important matters, this legislation authorized the Office for Victims of Crime at the Department of Justice to set aside an emergency reserve as part of the Crime Victims Fund to serve as a "rainy day" resource to supplement compensation and assistance grants to States to provide emergency relief in the wake of an act of terrorism or mass violence that might otherwise overwhelm the resources of a State's crime victims compensation program and crime victims assistance services.

Over the last several years we have made sure that the Crime Victims Fund would remain dedicated to crime victims. We made sure that it would serve as a "rainy day" fund and reserve to help meet crime victims' needs. The "rainy day" fund has been used to make up the difference between annual deposits and distributions three times during the past 7 years. It provides security and continuity to crime victims programs and to our State partners.

Since fiscal year 2000, Congress has set a cap on annual obligations from the Crime Victims Fund. I have worked to ensure that the cap has never resulted in resources being lost to the Crime Victims Fund. I believe we need to increase the cap. With the failure of the Bush administration crime prevention policies, crime began to rise under Attorney General Gonzales. Crime victims, the States and service providers need more assistance.

Instead of taking that salutary action, the Bush administration is proposing to raid the Crime Victims Fund and zero it out. The future of the Crime Victims Fund is in danger because the Bush administration has proposed rescinding all amounts remaining in the Crime Victims Fund at the end of fiscal year 2009—just cleaning it out and leaving the cupboard bare. That would leave the Crime Victims Fund with a zero balance going into fiscal year 2010 and create a disastrous situation for providers of victims' services. That is wrong.

Over the last few years, we have successfully blocked the Bush administration's past attempts to raid the Crime Victims Fund. This is not a cache of money from which this administration should try to reduce the budget deficits it has created. It has turned a \$5 trillion budget surplus into a \$9.4 trillion

debt. Its annual deficits run into the hundreds of millions. It is wrong to try to pay for its failed fiscal policies by emptying out the Crime Victims Fund. These resources are set aside to assist victims of crime.

In order to preserve the Crime Victims Fund once again, Senator CRAPO and I, as well as 25 other Senators, sent a letter on April 4, 2008, to the Senate Appropriations Committee asking that the committee to oppose the administration's proposal to empty the Crime Victims Fund. We asked the Committee, instead, to permit unobligated funds to remain in the Crime Victims Fund, in accordance with current law, to be used for needed programs and services that are so important to victims of crime in the years ahead.

We need to renew our national commitment to crime victims. The Senate can help by recognizing the importance of the Crime Victims' Fund and supporting its essential role in helping crime victims and their families meet critical expenses, recover from the horrific crimes they endured, and move forward with their lives. I urge Senators on both sides of the aisle to honor our longstanding commitment to crime victims by working together to recognize and support victims of crime, and to preserve the Crime Victims Fund.

THE MATTHEW SHEPARD ACT OF 2007

Mr. SMITH. Madam President, I wish today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would strengthen and add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

Early in the morning of September 9, 2007, police in Antioch, CA, responded to a call regarding a fight that had broken out at a party. According to witnesses, Phillip Hale, 18, and a 17-year-old accomplice were mocking and attempting to provoke a group of deaf partygoers by mimicking their hand movements. The two teens were asked to leave, but came back sometime later with a stick, a hoe, and a brick. Witnesses say a fight ensued upon their return. When police arrived on the scene, they found a substantial amount of blood. One deaf victim suffered a minor head injury, and Hale suffered a head injury as well, for which he was treated at John Muir Medical Center. According to jail records, Hale was booked at Contra County jail on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon, conspiracy, and committing a hate crime.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. Federal laws intended to protect individuals from heinous and vio-

lent crimes motivated by hate are woefully inadequate. This legislation would better equip the Government to fulfill its most important obligation by protecting new groups of people as well as better protecting citizens already covered under deficient laws. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN EDMUND LITTLE

• Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, it is with great pleasure that today I honor the life of LTC John Edmund Little, a veteran of World War II and a Pearl Harbor survivor. He passed away October 18, 2007, at the age of 92 after serving his country in the U.S. Navy from 1933 to 1937 and in the U.S. Air Force for 19 years from 1940 to 1959.

In 1937, Lieutenant Colonel Little was serving in the U.S. Navy on the USS *Colorado*, which was the first ship to search for Amelia Earhart around Howland Island in the South Pacific.

As a member of the U.S. Air Force, he was serving in Hawaii at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, when the island was attacked. Lieutenant Colonel Little went on to become a distinguished fighter pilot in the Southwest Pacific, Solomon Islands from 1942 to 1943. In 1943, he became squadron commander of the 44th Fighter Squadron which became the No. 1 squadron in the South Pacific, and was involved in the fatal strike against Admiral Yamamoto. Nine of the original pilots in his squadron were aces.

During his military career, Lieutenant Colonel Little received numerous awards for his hard work and dedication to the United States. These awards include four Air Medals, American Campaigns Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Armed Forces Reserve Medal. My home State of Arkansas is fortunate to have men and women such as Lieutenant Colonel Little who devote their lives to protecting the citizens of this great Nation.

Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me today in commemorating LTC John Edmund Little on his service to the United States of America. •

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 2:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 845. An act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand and intensify programs with respect to research and related activities concerning elder falls.

S. 1858. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following measure was discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works by unanimous consent, and ordered placed on the Calendar:

H.R. 3352. An act to reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Assistant Secretary of the Senate reported that on April 14, 2008, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 845. An act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to expand and intensify programs with respect to research and related activities concerning elder falls.

S. 1858. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 22

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 22, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a program of educational assistance for members of the Armed Forces who serve in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 38

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 38, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a program for the provision of readjustment and mental health services to veterans who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and for other purposes.

S. 367

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 367, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to prohibit the import, export, and sale of goods made with sweatshop labor, and for other purposes.

S. 399

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 399, a bill to

amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to include podiatrists as physicians for purposes of covering physicians services under the Medicaid program.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to classify automatic fire sprinkler systems as 5-year property for purposes of depreciation.

S. 604

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 604, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to limit increases in the certain costs of health care services under the health care programs of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 613

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 613, a bill to enhance the overseas stabilization and reconstruction capabilities of the United States Government, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 789, a bill to prevent abuse of Government credit cards.

S. 1042

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1042, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly.

S. 1052

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1052, a bill to amend title XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option to provide nurse home visitation services under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

S. 1117

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) were added as cosponsors of S. 1117, a bill to establish a grant program to provide vision care to children, and for other purposes.

S. 1140

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1140, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the limitation on the foreign earned income exclusion, and for other purposes.

S. 1161

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut

(Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1161, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the expansion of medicare coverage of medical nutrition therapy services.

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1267, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

S. 1430

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1430, a bill to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of \$20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, and for other purposes.

S. 1437

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1437, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the semicentennial of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

S. 1494

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1494, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the special diabetes programs for Type I diabetes and Indians under that Act.

S. 1572

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1572, a bill to increase the number of well-trained mental health service professionals (including those based in schools) providing clinical mental health care to children and adolescents, and for other purposes.

S. 1638

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1638, a bill to adjust the salaries of Federal justices and judges, and for other purposes.

S. 1661

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1661, a bill to communicate United States travel policies and improve marketing and other activities designed to increase travel in the United States from abroad.

S. 1843

At the request of Mr. REID, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1843, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to clarify that an unlawful practice occurs each time compensation is paid